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Editorial

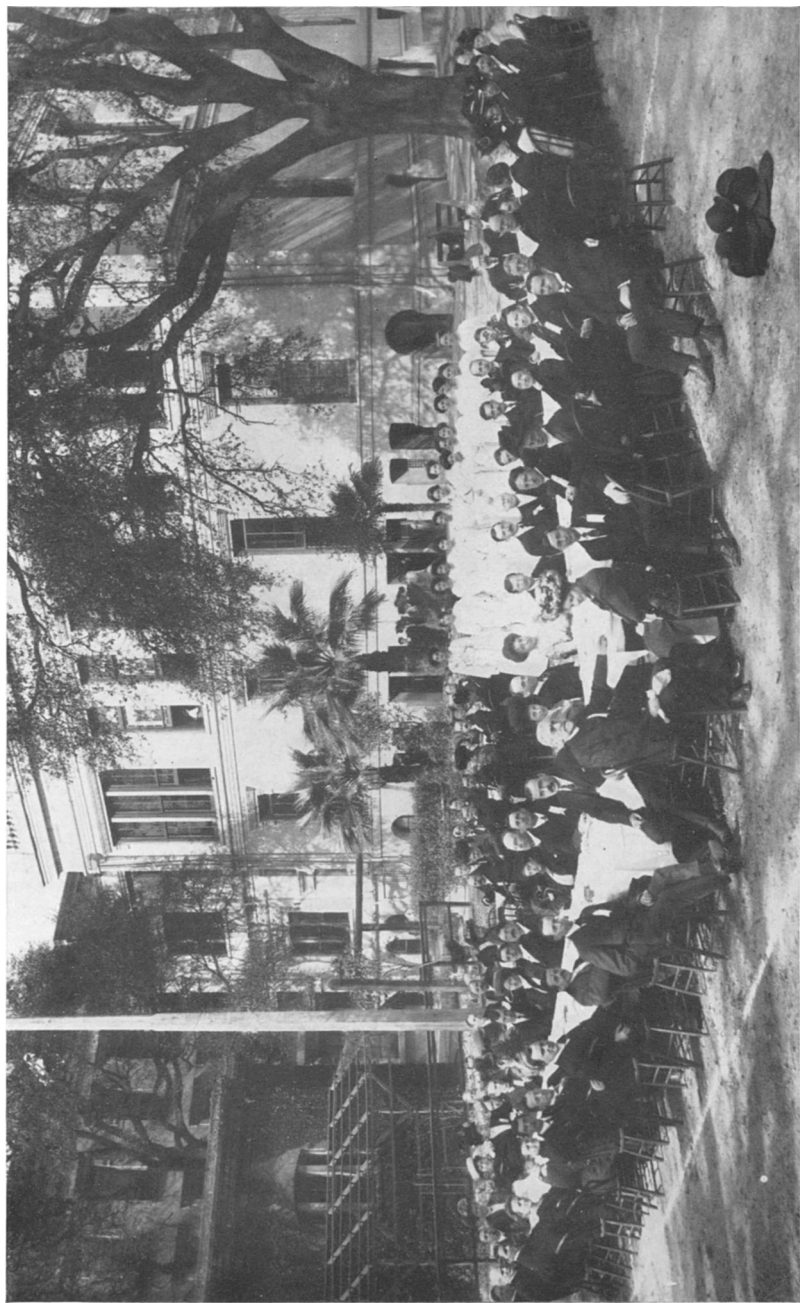
THE CONSOLIDATION OF INTERESTS IN THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION

The Classical Association of the Middle West and South is in a position to do far more for the interests of the classics than to meet for mutual edification and comparison of notes. It can bring things to pass for the cause it represents. The influence that this great body, representing the classical interests of twenty-eight states, can exert is enormous. But the momentum that it can gain is largely dependent upon its unity of thought and action—upon its representing an *organism* instead of an aggregation of interests.

This does not imply the sacrifice of individual views, nor the reduction of the Association to a machine system, but rather the adjustment of individual beliefs and purposes to certain essentials in classical study and teaching upon which all may easily agree and which may be regarded as *vertebral*. It implies in the second place the intelligent co-operation of the units of the Association.

Desultory programmes and random discussions, however scholarly and however interesting, unless they are correlated to some extent with a central system will not advance to the fullest the interests of classicism, and the possibilities of associational energy are often dissipated thereby. To bring about directive results there needs to be approximate agreement as to classical doctrine on the one hand, and systematic organization on the other—an organization that will incorporate the units of the association into the body at large.

The formulation of a doctrine that may serve as a ground of common classical encampment has already been committed to a commission whose preliminary report was presented and accepted at the



SOPHIE NEWCOMB COLLEGE ENTERTAINS THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION

New Orleans meeting in accordance with a resolution presented at the Nashville meeting. The practical and corporate organization of the association through the formation and co-operation of state auxiliary associations that in turn shall connect with practically all the units of membership was provided for by a resolution adopted at the same meeting.

This already has been easily accomplished in several states included in the association. It is to be hoped that the coming year this will be considered a regular part of the work of every state vice-president. The advantage of this vital contact with the individual membership of the association is too obvious for argument. In those states where local classical associations already exist this can be accomplished without difficulty, now that the association is an established fact and members are already at hand to assist in the organization. It need not interfere with the already existing local classical association, but can be made an integral and regular part of the programme. In those states where the organization is to be made for the first time the state association can be made directly auxiliary to the main association. If during the coming year every state vice-president would bring his own state thus into organic connection with the Classical Association of the Middle West and South there would be opportunity for classical reinforcement and propaganda whose results in the next decade would be positive and extensive.

THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND

The April meeting of the Classical Association of New England at Boston, while lacking some of the more picturesque features of the meetings held at Andover and Northampton, was very satisfactory. The cordial reception of the Association by the president and professors of Boston University, the large attendance, and the interesting and varied programme made the meeting enjoyable and inspiring. One feature which added to the pleasure of the occasion was the presence of Professor Knapp of Barnard College, who brought a cordial greeting from the Association of the Middle States and Maryland. A fuller report of the meeting, with abstracts of papers, will appear in the June number of the *Journal*.